

NEWS for the YOUNG PEOPLE

HOW TO TELL THE WEATHER

Peculiar Actions of Many Animals Taken as Sure Indication of Rain, Snow, Wind or Calm.

If a cat sneezes it is a sign of rain. The goat utters a peculiar cry before rain.

When the fox barks at night it will storm.

If rats and mice make much noise it indicates rain.

If the dog eats grass in the morning it will surely rain before night.

If the tracks of bear are seen after the first snow fall, look for a mild winter.

The wind will blow from the point the cat faces when she washes her face, and fair weather will follow.

If the bull goes first to pasture, it will rain; if the cows precede him the weather will be uncertain.

It is a sign of rain if the cat washes her head behind the ear. Cats rub against an object before a storm.

Sheep are said to ascend hills and scatter before clear weather, but if they bleat and seek shelter it will snow.

If the hair of a horse grows long early the winter will be mild. The hair of a horse becomes rough before rain, and they are frisky before a cold wave, and restless and uneasy before a rain.

Sailors do not like cats, and they have a saying when the cat is frisky she has a gale of wind in her tail, and a charm is often resorted to in a calm by throwing the cat overboard to raise a storm.

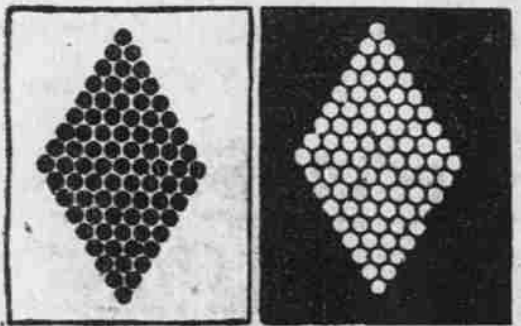
If cows fall in their milk look for stormy and cold weather. If they bellow in the evening it will snow before morning, and when a cow stops and shakes her foot there is bad weather behind her.

If cattle lie down early in the day expect rain, also when they lick their fore feet, lie on the right side, scratch against posts, when they refuse to go to pasture in the morning, and when they low and look at the sky.

ILLUSION WITH SMALL DOTS

Hexagonal Figures, Black and White, Appear to Be of Different Sizes, but Are Not.

If we look with one eye only, or with eyes half closed, at these groups of circular dots they assume the appearance familiar to us in honeycomb. This



Hexagonal Illusions.

is an effect of the contrast and opposition of the black and white in the sensation of the retina.

Although the black and the white circles are of the same diameter the irradiation is in their case so intense that the white circles appear to be larger than the black.

When Sea Feeds Land.

Seaweed, at one time thought valueless, is a wonderful fertilizer. Tons of it are collected in carts at low tide by the Cornish farmers, and around the coast of Jersey.

After being dried in heaps, it is spread on the land. There its nutritive properties of nitrogen and potash, in which it is very rich, are absorbed into the soil, and produce wonderful crops. New potatoes from Jersey, and spring cabbages from Cornwall, are raised with seaweed fertilizer. The sea also furnishes food for the land in other ways.

Legal Angle.

First Lawyer—I was looking over my boy's geometry lesson last night. I was quite interested in that proposition that the three angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles.

Second Lawyer—That isn't very complicated.

First Lawyer—No, but I was trying to think what a man could do if he had the other side of the case.—Puck.

Unexpected.

The office boy opened the door and looked in.

"My grandmother—" he began.

"Bah!" snorted the boss.

"Has just died."

"Wow!" yelled the boss.

"Has just died and left me a lot of money—and I've resigned—see?"

And he softly closed the door.

Little Girl Lost.

Lillian (aged 4)—Mamma, you're not a girl, are you?

Mamma—No, dear. I used to be a little girl, but now I'm a woman.

Lillian—Then what became of the little girl you used to be?

In the midst of game.

"What's de matter wid Jimmy?"

"Aw, he feels disgraced for life."

"How's dat?"

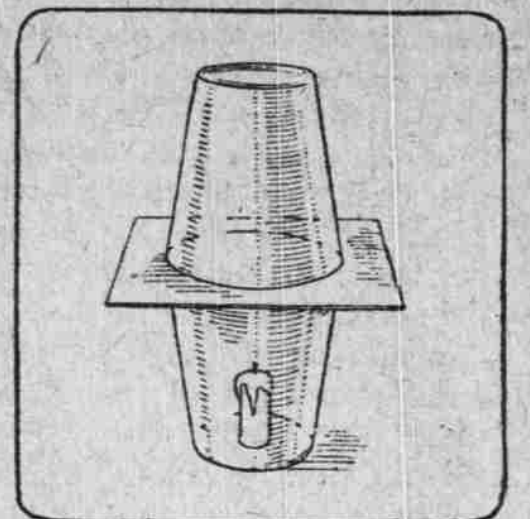
"His mudder come out yesterday and took him home right off second base."

VACUUM EXPERIMENT IS ODD

Candle Burns Oxygen in Glass and Blotting Paper Contracts, Making an Air-Tight Joint.

A very interesting experiment may be performed with two drinking glasses, a small candle end and a piece of blotting paper, says the Pathfinder. The glasses must be the same size and of the thin-glass kind. The candle end is lighted and set in one glass; the blotting paper is well dampened and placed on top of the glass, and the other glass inverted and its rim placed exactly over the lower one and pressed down tightly. The candle will burn up all the oxygen in the glass and go out.

The air in the glass being heated will expand and some of it will be forced out from under the moist paper,



Vacuum Experiment.

and then, as the portion remaining cools, it will contract and draw the upper glass on the paper and make an air-tight joint. The upper glass can then be taken up and the lower one will cling to it.

HOW TO MAKE A BOOMERANG

Amusing Little Toy May Be Made by Cutting Piece of Cardboard as Shown in Illustration.

Cut out in cardboard a boomerang as nearly as possible of the size and pattern given here.

Place it flat on the back of the first three fingers of the left hand, sloping



A Toy Boomerang.

them upward; then flick it smartly with the second finger of the right hand. It will fly off and return to your lap. Try it.

Walnut Shell Boats.

Materials required—A walnut shell, a small piece of cardboard, a match, a piece of white paper, and some sealing wax.

Scoop out any remaining fragments of nut and skin from the interior of the shell and cover the opening with cardboard, which must be first of all cut the exact size. Thrust a match through the middle of the cardboard and fasten it securely to the bottom of the boat with sealing wax. The cardboard can also be fastened to the shell in the same way. A sail can then be cut from white paper and fastened to the match by means of two holes.

Electricity in Rubber.

An ordinary india rubber band stretched and allowed to spring back by virtue of its own elasticity develops a negative charge of electricity, which is retained for a considerable time. The result does not appear to be influenced by the quality of the india rubber, and the same effect is produced by a length of tube sufficiently thin walled to be fairly elastic. An essential condition, however, is that the material be allowed to contract suddenly. If pulled out slowly and gradually allowed to resume its original dimensions, no electrification will be produced.

RIDDLES.

Why are doctors always bad characters?

Because the worse people are the more they are with them.

Why is a camel a most irascible animal?

Because he always has his back up.

Why are weary people like carriage wheels?

Because they are tired.

What is that which every one can divide, but no one can see where it has been divided?

Water.

What is majesty deprived of its external?

A jest—majesty.

Is there a word in the English language that contains all the vowels?

Yes, unquestionably.

Why does a miller wear a white hat?

To keep his head warm.

Why didn't the dog want to go into the ark?

Because he had a bark of his own.

What makes the cost of tea so high?

Because we must pay a steep price.

Why would a tanner make a good chemist?

Because he understands ox(h)ides.

CAULIFLOWER IS EASY OF CULTIVATION AND ONE OF MOST SAVORY OF VEGETABLES

Should Be in Every Garden, Even if Not for Commercial Purposes—Demands Cool Weather and Soil That Is Fairly Strong in Nitrogen and Supplied With Phosphorus.



Cauliflower—Easy of Cultivation and a Delicious Vegetable.

(By BESSIE L. PUTNAM.)

Cauliflower is one of the crops that should be in every garden, even if not for commercial purposes. This vegetable is peculiar in its demands of soil and climate. In the east, where it is grown for market purposes, it is thought to be doing well if one-half of the plants make heads that weigh from one to two pounds. Cauliflower demands cool weather and a soil that is fairly strong in nitrogen and also well supplied with phosphorus and potassium.

The culture of this vegetable is the same as that for cabbage, with the additional work of going through the field every day or two after the heads begin to form and tying together the leaves to prevent the small white heads from coloring. If this is neglected, the vegetable is ruined for both market and family use.

Do not allow the garden to grow up to weeds after the first early crops, but keep the surface clean and in cultivation during all the growing months.

Home mixed fertilizers are the most desirable for the market gardener. Nearly every gardener grows a diversified list of vegetables, which vary more or less in food requirements, and the feeding problem is entirely under his control when the rations are mixed at home.

A firm and compact seed bed, bringing the seed into intimate contact with moist soil, is the secret of quick

germination, providing the ground is warm and the depth of covering not too great.

Packages should be neat and clean. As a rule small packages are best early in the season when the prices are high, and large packages for the main crop. Use standard sized packages and give full measure. Nothing is gained in the end by short measure.

When possible it is best to grow vegetables on a large scale to sell to the wholesale trade instead of retailing. The successful gardener finds his time too valuable to peddle his vegetables.

Crops must be gathered in proper condition and sent to the market fresh and clean. Careful grading is essential. A few inferior specimens in a package are the first to attract attention. Even a few specimens will knock off more from the price of the package than they are worth.

Remove quick maturing crops as soon as they are done bearing and plant to others.

Cultivation should begin early. Cultivators with not less than twelve small teeth or shovels are best for small truck crops, because they leave the soil in ideal condition and are the best conservers of soil moisture. A loose and friable soil stimulates a steady and rapid growth.

Keep out the weeds and keep the surface soil stirred and the plants will grow through dry and wet weather.

HEAVY SEED DOES NOT INCREASE YIELD

Tests Made at Nebraska Experiment Station on Different Sized Kernels of Interest.

(By JAMES D. MARSHALL, Colorado Agricultural College.)

During the past ten years a great many experiments have been conducted by various experiment stations to determine the relative effect of different-sized kernels on the quantity and quality of grain produced per acre. The work at the Nebraska experiment station, is worthy of note on this particular subject. Tests here were made with wheat, the fanning mill being used to make the seed separations.

In the tests Turkey red, a hard winter wheat, and Big Frame, a soft winter wheat, were used. A lot of seed from each of the above varieties was separated into two parts, the heavier and the lighter halves. These were again separated into the "heaviest heavy" and the "lightest light" being sown. To check results ordinary seed as it came from the separator was planted.

The same method was followed each year for a period of eight years. The seed from each crop of the "heaviest heavy" and the "lightest light" was separated and only the heaviest quarter of the "heaviest heavy" and the lightest quarter of the "lightest light" were used for seed.

At the end of the experiment the average yields for the three kinds of seeds were practically the same while the average weights per bushel from the crops harvested showed hardly any difference in favor of any one selection of the heaviest seed for particular kind of seed. From the above results it is evident that the selection of the heaviest seed for sowing purposes will not materially increase the yield per acre or the weight per bushel of the crop harvested.

Furnish Pure Seed.

With a view of furnishing the farmers of the state with pure seed, the governor of Massachusetts has announced that the farms connected with the various state institutions would raise seed and sell them at a fair market price. This will not only be of great benefit to the state, but also a source of revenue to the institutions. Particular attention will be given to the raising of grass seed.

Practical Ideas.

Ideas with practical results are what are most wanted in the poultry yard.

WILD FLOWERS MAY BE TRANSPLANTED

Some Bulbous Plants Bear Removal Without Complaint if Given Good Site.

It is a common rule among flower growers that a plant should not be disturbed when in bloom. Yet in the case of the bulbous wild flowers, which die to the ground soon after blooming and are with difficulty located, there is a convenient exception; most of them bear removal without complaint if accorded a site similar to the native home, and not a few readily adapt themselves to the culture of garden or lawn.

A notable illustration is that of the spring beauty, the carmine-petalled petals of which appear in the first spring days. A little later the yellow adder's tongue is in its glory. Both may be grown in grass or garden, and as they die to the ground early no obstruction is offered to the lawn mower. The bulbs grow about as much below the surface as the leaf extends above—a fact to be remembered in transplanting.

Jack-in-the-pulpit, attractive in its glossy surplice of white and purple or pale green, is not averse to exchanging its native bog for a garden home. The showy cloak is but an envelope for the true flowers, which are clustered at the base of the spadix within.

Some plants bear only staminate flowers, in which case the plants die to the ground after blooming, to be seen no more until the coming spring. If there are fertile flowers, a globe of flaming scarlet fruit appears in mid-summer to mark the spot where the vernal orator appeared.

Value of Sunflower Seed.

Sunflower seed acts both as a food and medicine. It is a grain rich in oil, which produces a redness to the comb and a luster to the feathers. The seeds should never be dried in the heads, but always shelled as soon as ripe and spread out on a dry floor where air and light will reach it, thus allowing it to dry before becoming musty.

Sowing Spinach.

In Virginia the spinach is sown in rows, four to each narrow bed, rows about nine inches apart, and in the edge of each bed is generally a row of cabbage set out in December, and after the spinach is shipped, say about March 1, the cabbages are cultivated, and are ready for marketing in April and early June. Millions of cabbage plants have been so set out in the spinach beds.

GOOD IN SUFFERING

God's Purpose Always Best, Though It Is Hard Sometimes to Understand It.

Cyclone and blizzard, fire and flood have lately devastated cities and villages and left large portions of prosperous country life in ruins. Human life had been flooded away and the fairest domestic scenes desolated. The suffering and loss none can adequately measure.

Such multiple disasters raise questions in the mind about God's relation to the universe and his interest in human life. The old, old difficulty presents itself to our thought, can God be good and permit such crushing sorrows and irreparable losses to befall us, or if he is good is his power limited so he cannot prevent these catastrophes? It is easy to sing of God's goodness and praise him for the light and the embroidery of spring and summer and the harvests of the autumn time. But what about earthquakes and volcanoes, cloudbursts, tornadoes and lightning bolts, and overwhelming floods? Where is God and what is his relation to such occurrences? Permit me to offer a few lines of thought which have brought me relief and lit up many a dark hour and helped me to reason why God does not interfere to prevent such shocking events.

Vitalize Our Inventive Faculties.

We are ever at school and God is our teacher. We are left to work out our own material salvation as the pupil is to work out the problem in mathematics. Disaster has often given birth to inventions for public safety. Our discoveries are leading us to dominion over nature and bringing its mighty forces within our control. With the steam engine, telegraph, telephone and wireless we are annihilating time and space, with the swift ocean liners the sea is no more so the fathers knew it, and electric light is almost done away with the night. Statistics have been gathered which point to much progress toward protection from lightning. It is shown that the bolt strikes more frequently in the country than in the city, that it strikes barns oftener than human dwellings, and that white colors seem to be more attractive to it than the darker hues, and that it will never enter a bad conductor if there is a good one to be found.

Modern science has cut in two the death rate from such diseases as consumption, smallpox and typhoid. See how anaesthetics have relieved pain and witness the triumphs of modern surgical skill.

So we are working out our own salvation. That God could interfere I do not doubt, but for reasons good and wise he does not. By many a fall a child learns to rise and realize itself on its feet and after that feat it soon learns to walk. God could interfere with the material forces and prevent disaster, but if he did man would never come to mastery and dominion in nature, nor to the full exercise of his inventive genius.

They Educate Our Sympathies.

The word sympathy is the Greek word for "suffering with." The root idea in sympathy is to suffer with others, to share their losses and sorrows. If suffering and sorrow were unknown there would not be anything to call out our sympathies and so a large area of human nature would remain uncultivated. The sun melts away the ice and tugs at the roots of trees and educates the spring buds, so sorrows thaw out human nature and tug at the roots of our life and bring our sympathies to fruition. We learn to weep with those that weep and that is a trait of Christian character included in the apostolic counsels. Job said, "Did not I weep for him that was in trouble? Was not my soul grieved for the poor?" Sympathy is a wonderful soul-power and these sad calamities call it into noblest exercise.

The response at such times has always been electrical. Famines in Russia and India, fires and floods in any land stir human souls everywhere and fan into a flame the fires of sympathy ever burning on the altars of human hearts in all lands. The brotherhood of the race and the kinship of humankind is quickly evoked in the hour of horrible disaster. It is a great gift to be able to weep—not for—but with the sorrowing. There is infinite healing in it. Jesus wept with the mourning sisters. Such tears have often relieved the heartache and brought tranquillity to the troubled soul. A callous-hearted husband who had never seen anyone near to him suffer, watched his wife suffer like a martyr for weeks and his sympathies were stirred as never before, and the suffering wife said, "It was worth it all because it made a new man of my husband." In the midst of the stress of life there is a tendency to selfishness, but multiple disasters move us to compassion and keep the heart sympathetic and kind and this warming makes things go more pleasantly in many a home, office, and workshop in the daily round of life. Every sufferer through flood or fire or whatever else will be richer in sympathy in all the years to come. Perfection in sympathy comes through suffering.

Step by Step.

From the moment that the day breaks and the Sun of Righteousness dawns upon the soul, light is strewn upon life's way; so that the righteous man advances step by step in the light. Progressiveness is the law of spiritual growth.—J. W. Bardeley.

Temperance

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

QUAKER MAKES APT ANSWER

Liquor Dealer Who Declared He Kept Decent Place Is Told Just What He Does to Mankind.

During a lively discussion on the subject of temperance in an Allegheny mountain stage, says the Christian Endeavor World, one of the company who had hitherto remained silent, said:

"Gentlemen, I want you to understand that I am a liquor dealer. I keep a public house at —, but I would have you know that I have a license, and keep a decent house. I don't allow loafers and loungers about my place, and when a man has enough, he can't get any more at my bar. I sell to decent people, and do a respectable business."

"Friend," replied a Quaker, "that is the most terrible part of thy business; thee takes the young, the poor, the innocent and the unsuspecting, making drunkards and loafers of them. When their character and money are all gone, thee kicks them out and turns them over to the other shops to finish off, and thee ensnares others and sends them on the same road to ruin."

MISTAKES CAUSED BY BEER

Interesting Experiments Conducted in Vienna to Determine Reaction Time in Brain.

A series of interesting experiments was conducted by Exner of Vienna to determine the reaction time of the brain with and without alcohol, and it was found that no one's intellect was at its best even under moderate doses of this drug. The experiment was conducted as follows: The subject was placed at a telegraphic table with finger on the key and at the flash of light was required to press the key. It was proved that the reaction time of imbibers was lengthened over that of the abstainers even when small quantities of alcohol were taken. A number of complicated experiments were made on reaction time involving color signals. A telegraph key was placed on the right and left of the subject and signaled by alternating flashes of red and white light. It was proven that more mistakes were made after the ingestion of one glass of beer than before it was taken.

LINCOLN'S NEXT BIG FIGHT

After Reconstruction, Martyred President Intended to Wage War on Liquor Traffic.

At a recent temperance meeting in Washington, D. C., one of the speakers was J. B. Merwin, introduced as "the personal friend of Abraham Lincoln." Major Merwin dined with Lincoln the day the latter was assassinated, and he stated that during the conversation the president said to him:

"Merwin, since as far back as 1842 I have waged two fights, one against slavery and the other against the liquor traffic. We have won the fight against slavery and after reconstruction the next great question will be the overthrow of the liquor traffic. And you know, Merwin, that my purse and my heart and my influence and all that I have and all that I am will go into that work."

ALCOHOL HURTS THE MEMORY

Karl Vogt, Distinguished German Naturalist, Gives Result of Interesting Experiments.

To the "Medical Annual" for 1912 we are indebted for the following: "Karl Vogt, the distinguished German naturalist, found that alcohol had a deleterious effect on the memory. After taking about one ounce of alcohol after breakfast, he found that he required a longer time to learn off by heart a portion of Greek verse. If the alcohol was taken on an empty stomach this action was much more marked, and was seen with a smaller dose. On revising his work some months later, he found that the lines learned under the influence of alcohol were more imperfectly remembered than those learned on the days when no alcohol was used."

Governor Sulzer on Temperance.

The days when "a quorum of the house of representatives could always be found at the Capitol bar" are gone, never to return, according to Governor Sulzer. "When I first went to Washington," said the governor, "a man who did not drink was under suspicion; now it is the man who drinks who is under suspicion. The change came about through the good sense and better judgment of the members."

Bureau of Information.

The saloon is a bureau of information for every crime in the community. It is the first place a policeman goes when he is in search of crime and the last place he goes when he is in search of virtue.—William J. Bryan, in an Address to the Presbyterian Assembly.

Two Freedoms.

There are two freedoms—the false, where one is free to do what he likes, and the true, where he is free to do what he ought.—Charles Kingsley.